

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the following discussion and in view of the present amendment, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3, 9 and 20-21 are amended. Claim 22 is added. Claims 1-22 are pending in the application.

I. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112

In the Office Action at page 2, claims 1-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, 2nd paragraph as being indefinite. Independent claims 1, 9 and 20-21 are amended in light of the Examiner's comments, and accordingly, withdrawal of the § 112, 2nd paragraph rejection is respectfully requested.

II. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102

In the Office Action at page 2, claims 1-2, 9 and 15-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,025,581 to Kang et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed because Kang does not discuss or suggest:

a bracket formed with a combining hole, the bracket being combined to a side part of the frame;

a door hinge formed with a combining projection that is rotatably combined to the combining hole of the bracket to allow the door to rotatably open and close, the door hinge being combined to the door; and

a side cover attached to the side part of the frame and adapted to keep the door hinge combined with the bracket during rotation,

as recited in amended independent claim 1 and similarly in amended independent claim 9.

As a non-limiting example, the present invention as set forth in claim 1, for example, is directed to a bread maker that includes a frame forming a compartment with an oven and a kneading system for kneading dough. The bread maker includes a bracket connected to a part of the frame, a door and a door hinge rotatably combined with the bracket in order to allow the door to open and close. The bread maker additionally includes a side cover attached to the side part of the frame which keeps the door hinge combined with the bracket so that the door hinge does not break away from the bracket.

Kang discusses a door in a microwave oven in which a hinge plate 42 is mounted in a main body 40 of the microwave oven and is rotatably fixed to a hinge shaft 32 mounted in a cut-

open portion of a choke cover 35 (col. 3, lines 49-51). In Kang, the hinge shaft 32 of the door 30 is placed over a hole 43 of the hinge plate 42 of the main body 40 (col. 4, lines 55-57). Kang does not discuss or suggest that a bracket is combined to a side part of the frame of a bread maker and that a door hinge is attached to the door of the bread maker and is rotatably combined with the bracket. Kang further does not discuss or suggest the use of a side cover that is attached to the side part of the frame of a bread maker, where the side cover is adapted to keep the door hinge combined with the bracket. The hinge plate 42 of Kang merely includes a hole into which the hinge shaft 32 of the choke cover 35 is situated to allow for rotation, but does not discuss or suggest a side cover that is used to maintain a door hinge combined with a bracket during rotation. In contrast, the side cover of the present invention permits the rotation of the door in such a manner than the door hinge is keep together with the bracket.

Therefore, as Kang does not discuss or suggest "a side cover attached to the side part of the frame and adapted to keep the door hinge combined with the bracket during rotation," as recited in amended independent claim 1 and similarly in amended independent claim 9, claims 1 and 9 patentably distinguish over the reference relied upon. Accordingly, withdrawal of the § 102(b) rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 2 and 15-16 depend either directly or indirectly from independent claims 1 and 9 and include all the features of their respective independent claims, plus additional features that are not discussed or suggested by the reference relied upon. For example, claim 2 recites that "a plurality of brackets and a plurality of door hinges are provided." Therefore, claims 2 and 15-16 patentably distinguish over the reference relied upon for at least the reasons noted above. Accordingly, withdrawal of the § 102(b) rejection is respectfully requested.

III. Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicants are appreciative of the acknowledgement that claims 3-8, 10-14 and 17-19 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the § 112, 2nd paragraph rejections and to include the limitations of the base claim. Accordingly, claim 3 was amended to include the features of base claim 1. Claims 6-8, 10-14 and 17-19 depend from amended independent claims 1 and 9. As it is believed that the amendment of claims 1 and 9 puts the claims in condition for allowance, claims 6-8, 10-14 and 17-19 were not amended to include the features of the base claim.

The Applicants are appreciative of the acknowledgement that claims 20-21 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the § 112, 2nd paragraph rejections. Accordingly, claims 20-21 were amended.

IV. New Claim

New claim 22 recites a device for preparing food including:

- a frame forming a compartment in which an oven is accommodated;
- a bracket formed with a combining hole, the bracket being combined to a side part of the frame;
- a door provided in front of the frame;
- a door hinge formed with a combining projection that is rotatably combined to the combining hole of the bracket to allow the door to rotatably open and close, the door hinge being combined to the door; and
- a side cover attached to the side part of the frame and adapted to keep the door hinge combined with the bracket.

Nothing in the reference relied upon discusses or suggests such. Therefore, claim 22 patentably distinguishes over the reference relied upon.

Conclusion

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 3, 9-10 and 20-21 have been amended. Claim 22 has been added. Claims 1-22 are pending and under consideration.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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